

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 H-03 /101 W

----- 019549

P R 091259Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1526

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL SE MOSCOW 12238

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET MEDIA ON PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION

REF: MOSCOW 12199

1. PRAVDA AUGUST 9 FRONTPAGES FOUR TASS STORIES UNDER
HEADING "TOWARD THE RESIGNATION OF R. NIXON." THEY
REPORT PRESIDENT'S AUGUST 8 MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSIONAL
LEADERS AND VICE PRESIDENT, WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S
ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPEECH THAT EVENING, AND CONGRESSMAN
RHODES' PREDICTION THAT SPEECH WOULD CONTAIN RESIGNATION.
ALSO NOTED IS EFFORT BY SENATOR BROOKE AND CONGRESSMAN
BUCHANAN TO PASS RESOLUTIONS URGING CRIMINAL IMMUNITY
FOR PRESIDENT AFTER RESIGNATION. SENATORS SCOTT AND
MANSFIELD ARE QUOTED AS INTENDING TO CONTINUE
SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY COURSE, WITH
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MANSFIELD SPECIFYING -FIRST OF ALL" DETENTE IN RELATIONS

WITH THE SOVIET UNION. OTHER CENTRAL PAPERS, EXCEPT
RKED STAR, CARRIED ESEENTIALLY SAME MATERIAL.

2. ALTHOUGH NEWS OF ACTUAL RESIGNATION CAME TOO LATE FOR
MOSCOW MORNING NEWSPAPERS, RADIO HAS CARRIED THE
NEWS. ONE BROADCAST HEARD BY EMBOFFS GAVE CAPSULE
BIOGRAPHY OF VICE PRESIDENT FORD AND DESCRIBED HIM AS
SUPPORTER OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH USSR. ANOTHER
BROADCAST QUOTED FORD ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO WORK
FOR STRENGTHENING OF PEACE AND RESOLUTION OF INTERNAL PROBLEMS.
THIS BROADCAST QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM NEW YORK TIMES PUBLIC OPINION
SURVEY FINDINGS THAT LARGE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SUPPORT
IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH USSR AND DISAPPROVE OF OPPONENTS OF
DETENTE. A THIRD BROADCAST CARRIED EXTENSIVE PARPHRASES OF NIXON
AND FORD STATEMENTS.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRESIDENT, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW12238
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740218-0603
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740860/aaaabzsd.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 12199
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <27 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET MEDIA ON PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, TASS, (NIXON, RICHARD M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005